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In re Application of
Reinhard MEINDL, et al.
Application No. 10/023,118
Filed: December 17, 2001
Attorney Docket No. **AT 000071**

DECISION ON PETITION
UNDER 37 CFR 1.137(b)

This is a decision on the petition under the unintentional provisions of 37 CFR 1.137(b), filed November 19, 2009, to revive the above-identified application.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

This application became abandoned as a result of petitioner's failure to file an appeal brief (and fee required by 37 CFR 41.20(b)(2)) within the time period provided in 37 CFR 41.37(a)(1). As an appeal brief (and appeal brief fee) was not filed within two (2) months of the Notice of Appeal and Petition Decision mailed February 17, 2009, and no extensions of time under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a) were obtained, the appeal was dismissed and the proceedings as to the rejected claims were terminated. See 37 CFR 1.197(b). As no claim was allowed, the application became abandoned on April 18, 2009. See MPEP 1215.04.

It is not apparent whether the person signing the statement of unintentional delay was in a position to have firsthand or direct knowledge of the facts and circumstances of the delay at issue. Nevertheless, such statement is being treated as having been made as the result of a reasonable inquiry into the facts and circumstances of such delay. See 37 CFR 10.18(b) and Changes to Patent Practice and Procedure; Final Rule Notice, 62 Fed. Reg. 53131, 53178 (October 10, 1997), 1203 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 63, 103 (October 21, 1997). In the event that such an inquiry has not been made, petitioner must make such an inquiry. If such inquiry results in the discovery that it is not correct that the entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date for the reply until the filing of a grantable petition pursuant to 37 CFR 1.137(b) was unintentional, petitioner must notify the Office.

There is no indication that the person signing the petition was ever given a power of attorney to prosecute the application. If the person signing the petition desires to receive future correspondence regarding this application, the appropriate power of attorney document must be submitted. While a courtesy copy of this decision is being mailed to the person signing the petition, all future correspondence will be directed to the address currently of record until appropriate instructions are received.

The petition satisfies the requirements of 37 CFR 1.137(b) in that petitioner has supplied (1) the reply in the form of a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and fee of \$810, and the submission required by 37 CFR 1.114; (2) the petition fee of \$1620; and (3) an adequate statement of unintentional delay.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to Monica A. Graves at (571) 272-7253.

This application is being referred to Technology Center AU 2617 for processing of the RCE and for appropriate action by the Examiner in the normal course of business on the amendment submitted in accordance with 37 CFR 1.114.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'BW Brown', with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

Brian W. Brown
Petitions Examiner
Office of Petitions

cc: **THOMAS H. HAM
WILSON & HAM
1811 SANTA RITA ROAD, SUITE 130
PLEASANTON, CA 94566**